

402 West Washington  
Room W195  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(888) TEENWORK  
(317) 232-2675

Indiana Department of Labor  
Bureau of Child Labor

# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## STATE LAUNCHES WEB SITE FOR TEEN WORKERS

Indianapolis, IN – Last fiscal year the Indiana Department of Labor processed a record number of work permits to teens aged 14-17. The number of permits reached almost 137,000, and state officials predict this year's number will be even higher. In response, Indiana Department of Labor has launched a new web site for Indiana's Teen Workers, [www.teenworker.org](http://www.teenworker.org). By logging onto [www.teenworker.org](http://www.teenworker.org), Indiana teens, their parents and employers can find out all they need to know about getting a work permit. Indiana law requires all teens between the ages of 14-17 to get a work permit before beginning a job. The new website also tells the hours teens may work and the hazardous occupations in which they may not.

"Each summer brings a flood of new teens into the workforce, and a large volume of inquiries from teens, parents, and employers about Indiana's teen work laws," said Pete Rimsans, director of Indiana's Bureau of Child Labor. "The [teenworker.org](http://www.teenworker.org) website is part of our long term goal to educate teens and employers about their rights and responsibilities under the law."

According to Rimsans, getting a work permit is as simple as getting an *Intention to Employ* form from [www.teenworker.org](http://www.teenworker.org) or the school where the student attends and getting both their employer's and parent's signatures. After that, they just return it, along with their birth certificate, to the issuing officer at their school who will issue the work permit.

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Rimsans said hundreds of calls pertaining to teen worker laws come into his office each week. "Many of the calls are from teenagers and their parents wanting to know how to get a work permit. But a large percentage of the calls are from employers. Our new web site provides easy access to all information whether it is for teens, their parents, their employer or the issuing officer at the school. This site provides all publications, brochures, forms, and posters provided by our department in a downloadable form."

The department also operates a toll-free number, 1-888-Teen Work, that is also available for those who want to speak with someone in the Bureau of Child Labor. 1-888-Teen Work is in operation 24 hours a day. If you want to speak with a child labor law expert directly, Rimsans suggests calling Monday-Friday between 8AM and 4:30PM EST.

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This release is available on the Internet at <http://www.state.in.us/labor/childlabor/news.html>

**Reporters' contact: Pete Rimsans, (317) 232-2683**

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